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DAKIN'S
PURE VOLATILE
EUCALYPTUS OIL.DISTILLED FROM
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EUCALYPTUS OIL has long taken a foremost place as a "household remedy" in Australia. When applied externally it has a powerful stimulating and soothing action, but does not blister the most sensitive skin, and no application known will so quickly subdue the pain of muscular rheumatism.

Taken internally in small doses, it acts as a powerful stimulant and antispasmodic, whilst its secondary action induces sleep. The penetrating agreeable vapor of the Oil is sedative, and when inhaled relieves Asthma, Bronchitis, Catarrh and Sore Throat.

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AND

FLOWER

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SEASON 1891-92.

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SEEDS,

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

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Hongkong, 26th September, 1891.

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Hongkong, January 17th, 1891.

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Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

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While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the free discussion by correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

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Subscribers to the Hongkong Telegraph are respectfully reminded that all subscriptions are payable in advance.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1891.

THE MACAO HARBOUR

DIFFICULTY.

For some weeks past the good people of Macao have been industriously circulating for signature a petition to the King of Portugal, which shows the absolute necessity of at once taking active steps to dredge the harbour of the Holy City in order to prevent the port from becoming entirely impassable to the foreign steamers and Chinese trading junks, on whose traffic the existence of the place as a commercial centre actually depends. We have no confidence that this petition will obtain any material concessions from the Portuguese Government in the direction required, and our views are shared by the leading elements of the Macao community. Past experiences are not encouraging; the present financial position both of Portugal and its Far Eastern dependency is the reverse of hopeful; and future prospects are as black as Erebus. And yet the request of the law-abiding citizens of Macao is not unreasonable, nor would it be difficult of realisation, could only the Lisbon official wire-pullers be made to understand what important results might be achieved by a timely concession to uphold a usefulness that is day by day becoming more difficult to obtain.

Although Macao solicits no financial help from the Lisbon Government, but only desires to be allowed to expend its own surplus revenue in the harbour improvements so urgently needed, we sadly fear the petitioners are relying on a broken reed. So long as the colony was able to periodically send home huge remittances, obtained from the infamous coolie traffic, from fan-tan, the wai-sing lottery and some more than doubtful trade monopolies, Macao was the brightest gem in the Lusitanian diadem; the surplus revenues which ought to have been expended in the improvement of the city and in furthering the interests of its inhabitants, were religiously swallowed up by successive Home Governments. And when the coolie traffic was stopped, and His Excellency the Viceroy of the Liang Kuang decided that he had a better right to the proceeds of the wai-sing farm than the Macao authorities—thus reducing the revenue of the neighbouring colony to next to nothing—the interest of the Mother Country in the welfare of her far distant outpost in the China Sea dropped to zero—much lower if that were possible. And it has kept there.

Over ten years ago we strongly advocated the thorough dredging of Macao harbour; scores of times since then we have returned to the charge, and on several occasions we have received absolute assurances from Governors and other high officials that the greatly needed work would be carried out without delay. But nothing has been done, nor does there appear any hope of a commencement. We happened to be temporarily residing in Macao when Senhor ADOLPHO LOUREIRO was sent out to investigate and report on the works necessary to keep the port open to shipping traffic, and had the privilege of inspecting the results of that expert's careful survey of the harbour and of personally discussing with him the recommendations he had decided to make to the Lisbon Government. Senhor LOUREIRO's scheme was on altogether too grand and extensive a scale to be of practical use to Macao, but only because the expenditure was heavy and no funds were really available. We confidently predicted that it would be shelved and come to nothing; and it was shelved and to-day its practical effects are nil. Governor da Roza tried hard to induce the Lisbon authorities to do something; but all was of no avail, even although backed up by the experienced recommendations of Captain D. CHARRI, who was then and had been for years previously Harbour Master of Macao.

But all this time the harbour of Macao has been steadily silting up, and the day

is not far distant when it will be utterly impossible for steamers to enter the port. And when that day arrives Macao can 'put up the shutters' and announce that business with the outside world has ceased. About a year ago Capt. W. E. CLARK, of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s service, wrote to a Macao contemporary, fully explaining the actual state of the harbour and suggesting what would have proved an effective and at the same time an economical remedy. Captain CLARK's scheme was an elaboration, carefully worked out, of a plan submitted to Senhor CORRE REAL, Colonial Secretary of Macao, by the present writer, nearly ten years ago, and its adoption then would have saved Macao many thousands of dollars and the deadlock that is fast approaching.

It is too much to indulge in even the slightest hope that the Portuguese Government will sanction the wishes of the Macao community; home troubles are too serious to afford a moment's consideration for Colonial interests. Capt. C. M. DE BORJA, the present Governor of Macao, is an exceptionally able man for his position, and as a thorough sailor with an experience that is world-wide, it cannot be doubted that he will throw in the whole weight of his influence in favor of the reforms so essential to the colony's existence. But we fear all is in vain; the Lisbon Government will probably consent to move when it is too late. And that day is not far distant. Meanwhile we heartily sympathize with the citizens of the "Gem of the Orient earth," who have at last exhibited some symptoms of independence. Their present position is anything but an enviable one—they are between the devil and the deep sea, and how it will all end time alone can show.

TELEGRAMS.

BALFOUR ACCEPTS.

LONDON, October 19th.

Mr. Balfour has accepted the leadership of the House of Commons.

MRS. SMITH MADE A PEEREER.

The widow of the late Mr. W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Treasury, is to be raised to the peerage.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Uneasiness is felt at Peking regarding the Russian advance towards Pankin.

(From Straits Times)

RE-ELECTION OF SIR JAMES FERGUSON.

LONDON, October 10th.

The Right Hon'ble Sir James Fergusson has been re-elected M.P. for North East Manchester.

[At the last general election for this constituency, Sir James Fergusson, who was formerly Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and has been appointed Postmaster-General in place of Mr. Ralston, polled 3,680 votes against 3,353 cast for his Home Rule opponent.]

THE ALLIANCE OF RUSSIA AND FRANCE.

The Times in an article discussing the reported imminent signature of the Russo-French treaty says that, in consequence of this alliance and friendship, it is more than ever necessary for Great Britain to guard her interests with redoubled vigilance.

October 13th.

Several thousands of persons viewed the coffin containing the body of the late Mr. Parnell at Dublin; the funeral cortege to Glasnevin Cemetery was several miles long and was a spectacle of an unexpected nature. Mrs. C. S. Parnell is quite prostrate with grief.

On Mr. Dillon making his appearance in Dublin, he was greeted by the leaders with shouts of "murderer."

[Compare this telegram with the mutilated and biased version of the Reuter in Hongkong, misquoting Fanny O'Shea to a Roman Catholic Archbishop and then killing him. The Straits Times got the telegram all right, but could not help saying editorially that Mrs. Parnell was "a Mrs. O'Shea." Poor woman!]

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Hon. C. P. Chater left England on Oct. 4 for this end of the earth.

THE national emblem of Russia just now, the Chicago Times wittily remarks, should be a turkey gobbler.

AN item for the Canton Merchant. Listeners hear no good of themselves, neither do the sneaks who open private letters.

WE are informed by the agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carrill & Co.) that the "Mogul" liner SIVA left Singapore for this port to-day, and is due on or about the 27th inst.

A REGULAR Convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 218, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8 for 8.30 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

Great Author's Wife: "What are you writing, Charles?"

Great Author: "An essay on the importance of a thorough knowledge of the English language."

Great Author's Wife: "You don't seem to be getting on very fast with it."

Great Author: "No, I'm stuck. I can't remember how to spell 'embarrassment.'"

THE Penang surplus revenue for the year is estimated at date to be about \$250,000.

THOUSANDS of souls have been lost because some-day was afraid of doing something somebody else would find fault with.

GIVE even the Devil his due.—She: "I can't endure him. He is a man of too small calibre for me." He: "Oh, you do him an injustice. He is a tremendous bore."

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. informs us that the steamship Pishanour, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port at 3.30 p.m. to-day.

SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN is said to be at work on the score of a new opera for the Savoy Theatre, London, and will be in readiness for production at that house in about six months.

TORONTO, Canada, has the most wonderful four corners in the world. They are occupied by a church, the Governor-General's palace, a university and a saloon, "representing education, legislation, salvation and damnation."

A SOLOMON Island nigger lately fired at Captain Davies, of H.M.S. Royalist, who instantly potted him in self-defence. Ere the nigger died he was asked why he had fired on the skipper. "Me tink him mis'ary," replied the simple savage.

LAM FAK, a coolie, was charged with stealing five pounds of red composition for ships' bottoms, the property of the Dock Company. The prisoner admitted that he took the composition just to paint the town red. He has gone to feed on skilly for 14 days.

THE Last Call Gold Mining Co., a Queensland venture, has been the Charters Towers Northern Miner, with libel on account of certain gold criticisms. The best answer that any gold-mining company can make to nasty criticisms is to hurry up and pay a big dividend out of cashings, instead of wasting shareholders' money on legal "bluff."

THUS our Sydney friend, the Bulletin:—"Yet another person, with three trustful Melbourne ladies in tow, has started this week from Sydney for China to convert the Chow. Charly, begins at—China! Why don't these idiots convert the Chinaman in Lillybuck-street and George-street North?" Our contemporary is decidedly in the right. Those, no doubt, well-meaning but foolish people are not wanted in China.

THE Dardanelles incident is now past and almost forgotten again. If only the Russians knew, however, they have missed a fine chance. We have nothing to defend us but the little Plover, and three or four Russian battleships would without very much difficulty have swept in the Isle of Fragrant Waters in one act. Then there would at any rate be a break in the utter stagnation now oppressing the community.

It is indeed interesting to learn that "the British squadron had five whales in the North and captured large quantities of salmon." What is the mission of a British squadron in the Far East—to protect British interests or to 'capture' salmon? This is a question, especially in view of the recent serious troubles up the Yangtze, which the presence of a few English war-ships might have averted, that requires to be thoroughly threshed out.

"Doctor, how am I coming on? Do you think there is any hope?" said a very sick man to Dr. Diller.

"Your chances" are the best in the world. The statistics show that one person in ten recovers," replied the Doctor.

"Then there is not much hope for me?"

"Oh, yes there is. You are the tenth case that I have treated, and the other nine are dead. I don't see how you can help getting well if the statistics are to be relied on."

AN Australian contemporary states that a certain Brisbane Civil Servant gets £450 a year for the responsible work of addressing envelopes. We wonder how much per annum the transcendent genius of Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Jones would command in the capital of Queensland, taking the case just mentioned as a basis of calculation! This colony can easily spare its Colonial Treasurer, if he thinks he can better himself by trying Queensland, or anywhere else. We never stand in the way of a good man, and Mr. Mitchell-Jones, in his own opinion at least, is more than that. He ought to try somewhere, as he is not appreciated here.

A POLICEMAN at Southport, which is somewhere in England, captured a cyclist the other week and "ran him in" on a charge of furious riding. When the hapless wheel-man was haled before the magistrate, the policeman gaily swore that "the prisoner, yer Washup, was going at the rate of forty miles an hour." Reminds us of that swivel-eyed witness in the recent local infanticide case in which Mr. Bomanjee was so unmercifully victimized; only at Southport "his Worship" was not so easily gulled as Mr. Justice Akroyd. The forty-miles an hour racket wouldn't work, the policeman was severely hauled over the coals, and the cyclist discharged.

AT the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on Monday next, at 3 p.m., the business will be—

Financial Minutes.

Report of the Finance Committee, No. 10 of 1891.

Questions.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

First reading of the "Appropriation Bill for 1892." Committee on the Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Senior Missionary Society in Hongkong of the London Missionary Society." Committee on the Bill entitled "The Prepared Opium Ordinance, 1891." Third reading of the Bill entitled "The Raw Opium Amendment Ordinance, 1891." Committee on the Bill entitled "The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1891."

THE London correspondent of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat cables on September 19th: "The few newspaper men here are of the opinion that the anti-foreign agitation in China has been considerably exaggerated. Lord Salisbury, it is said, is not disposed to take any steps which might have to be supported by acts leading to a war from which Russia would be the chief gainer. A big Russo-Chinese war is only a question of time, and France is watching for a chance of making some important frontier 'rectifications' at the expense of China, without paying too great a price for them, in blood and money. Lord Salisbury fails to see any fun in a course of action which would help the designs in Asia of only probable enemies of England. In Europe it is pretty certain, therefore, that any naval demonstration by the European Powers will be of a harmless spectacular character, which will not seriously alarm the young Chinese Emperor and his astute advisers."

A SORT of electric search-light has been rigged up for dentists' use. By its aid the innermost corners of the smallest mouth can be explored with little difficulty.

G—S—P—(in a morallising mood)—Do you realize, my dear sir, what will be the end of this feverish, grasping life of yours?

Punjom Shareholder—Certainly! a dividend.

I LANTHROPIC Shareholder.—Poor old Close-fist is dying and they're getting up a subscription to defray his funeral expenses. Are you in it?

Editor.—Yes. Take him ten pounds of ice and this old fan, with my compliments. He'll need 'em when he gets to his journey's end.

THE Paris models have formed a trade union, and have begun an aggressive movement. They desire to drive out the Italian models. The Italians are often handsomer than the French, and command the cream of the business. The French models forlornly their case with the assertion that the Italian models are really political spies.

AT the Magistracy this morning, Chan Ping, living at 182 Wellington Street, was charged by Detective Green that he did deal with arms, to wit, sawed sticks without a license, contrary to the Ordinance. He admitted it and was fined \$10, which he paid; the sticks were confiscated, so the police force will now be able to appear with swagger sticks.

THUS the San Francisco Bulletin:—Signor Celso Cesar Moreno informs the President that England is planning to take possession of Hawaii. Possibly, but it does not follow because Moreno says so. He has a faculty for "talking with his mouth." By the way, England has just recalled her last cruiser from the Hawaiian Station, finding no object in keeping her there.

They have some "crack" amateur pedestrians in Sydney just now. Dalrymple has covered a mile in 4 min. 35 secs., from scratch and in a big field, and can do his half-mile inside a minute; and now Macpherson, the champion sprinter, has won a 150 yds. race at the Sydney Grammar School Sports in a yard inside seven seconds. These are all grand performances. Advance Australia!

AS many of our readers doubtless make a practice of risking a sovereign or two on the Melbourne Cup, it may interest them to know that our worthy friend Mr. Jack Want, M.L.C., one of the astute "sports" in the Southern Hemisphere, has backed The Tyler to win £4,000. Bar accident, The Tyler will be there or thereabouts at the finish of the greatest race in the universe. But what price Highborn?

LI CHI, a married woman, and Chung Yan, a blooming widow of 45 summers were charged with receiving and harboring 3 girls whose ages were 19, 16 and 15 respectively, for the purpose of selling them as prostitutes. The case was a clear one against the defendants, who not being able to persuade her hubby to find two or three of \$50 each for her good behaviour for a year, goes into seclusion in the convent attached to the Victoria Gaol for three months; the second defendant was dismissed and went on her way rejoicing.

TACOMA, says a correspondent, has surprised and charmed us. Eight years ago there was not a graded street in the city; now there are eighty miles of graded streets, the minimum width being eighty feet. Everywhere are to be seen electric cars, and on them the electric street cars and schools are dotted all over the town and branch lines of railroad run in all directions connecting with the East. Bringing hundreds of people to visit this "City of Destiny." Immense buildings have arisen where a few years ago were swamps and underbrush, and elegant homes stand where the first trees nodded. In five years the population has increased from 1,500 to 30,000—a city of a moment's life, but a New England too, made up of New England men, and to that fact, no doubt, is this great prosperity due.

IN the city of New York there are about 500 miles of paved streets, and it is estimated that there is in constant wear upon these streets about one billion tons of iron, in the shape of wheel-tires, street car rails, horseshoes, &c. not more than one-half of which ever gets back to the puddling furnace or rolling mill. Tons of iron are worn off from horsehoes every day, perhaps twenty times the amount is lost from tires of ordinary vehicles. The surface roads give off tons from the rails and car wheels; the elevated roads also lose tons from their rails and car wheels. The pedestrians grind off tons of nails in the heels of their shoes, and not an ounce of all this saved. It becomes dust and is blown everywhere, but the great majority finds its way to the bed of the ocean with street dirt and garbage, and until some great revolution shall make a radical change in material matters the millions of tons of iron which are thus deposited in the wild waste of waters will not again enter into the useful arts of which they were once such an important factor.

THE Sydney Bulletin has received a prospectus of an association known as the "Pacific" Bankers of N.S.W., which has just started. It is just about to start—in Sydney. The new movement has 34 rules; the first one defines it as an Association of "gentlemen connected with various branches of banking," and 500 Sydney and suburban bank officials have already joined without a single one, it would seem, being rejected on the ground that he isn't a gentleman. "Matters of interest to the profession" opens up a large field of inquiry. "Which matters we would like to discuss" discloses somewhat numerous, and we truly the bankers will find time to look into the following questions:—(1) Why is it that nobody can find the reserve fund after the bank busts? (2) What a bank offers 10 or 12 per cent for deposits fixed for a term of years, is the whole institution going to slip before the term is up, or is it going to pay up the interest out of the next lot of deposits? (3) What becomes of the bank when it goes bankrupt? (4) Is it advisable to appoint an advanced consumptive as manager, so that after his death the shortage can be put down as the result of his defalcations? (5) Is it best to select a man who is chronically afflicted with the "faints"? (6) Ought all the directors' "uncles" to have a large, unsecured syndicate apiece? (7) Is it the better policy to declare a 10 per cent dividend the week before the smash, when there are no assets left but a handful of bad bills, or to reduce the dividend to 5 per cent, and carry a large sum to the reserve as an evidence of the stability of the institution? (8) When the manager and the secretary find there is only £1,000 left in the whole shop, and the said £1,000 is a deposit by a widow, and they toss up to see which will take £750 and be the base individual who will with the whole concern, and which will take £250 and stay behind, and be the wailing down-trodden victim—then what does the widow come in? Various other questions are held over.

WE are pleased to hear that Miss Vera Patey is now recovered sufficiently to let Hongkong once more enjoy itself. To-night the company gives "The Balloon," by Durdley and Fenn—a rollicking piece, performed by a rollicking troupe. Surely this will draw Hongkong's uttermost dollar—if we are at that.

Editor (Daily Star)—Anything startling for to-day?

Chief Romancer—I can't think of a single thing.

"Marry off some of the leading actresses, or get up a church-scandal, or something spicy in that direction."

"That's been done too often and is a bit played out. Couldn't introduce any special novelty?"

"Couldn't you work up a sensational para. that 'Brownie' has eloped with his mother-in-law? That would fetch them."

"No use; poor old 'Brownie' hasn't recovered from his sensational sea trip the other day, and is confined to his hammock with a severe stomach-ache."

"What a pity. I'm afraid we shall have a dull paper to-night—but let her go Gallagher."

THE Sydney affair still keeps the Yokohama papers going. The thing happened early in September, and ever since the local journals have been hammering at it till it is nearly dead. [What a thing it is to be hard up for news! The reasons are two—once, animosity among the said journals, and two, undue tenderness of skin on the part of the M. M. Co.'s agents in Japan. No such fuss was made about the Oceanic grounding at

exception of the second engineer, who rescued. The mail was also saved.

LONDON, September 24th.
The bulk of the French newspapers give a cheerful reception to the decree commanding a relaxation of the Alsace-Lorraine passport regulations. They are of the opinion that Germany was only forced to an act of justice by circumstances.

The *Chronicle's* Paris correspondent declared the feeling that war is imminent is growing hourly in France and that this opinion is more or less openly expressed at every embassy in Paris.

The Admiralty is resolved to make some valuable additions to the gunboat service, and officials are proceeding hurriedly with the orders which are being issued for the construction of six additional vessels by private firms. These new gunboats will be of 312 tons. In placing these orders it is insisted on by the Admiralty that the vessel shall be ready for delivery early in the spring.

The American ship *Charles Menzies*, from New York for San Francisco, foundered near Cape Horn. The American ship *Bella of Bath*, from Tacoma for Havre, landed the *Menzies* crew at Rio Janeiro.

Baron de Worms has been offered the position of Under Foreign Secretary, in succession to Sir James Fergusson, appointed Postmaster-General. The *Chronicle* says Lord Lytton will shortly retire from the British Embassy in Paris and be succeeded by Sir Philip Currie.

PARIS, September 24th.
Other parts of the world as well as the United States have been made aware of the navigation of the air. Henri Lecomte, director of the School of Aeronautics at Paris, will soon make a rash attempt to cross Africa by balloon, starting from Mozambique.

A peculiar feature of his balloon is a special apparatus for the production of hydrogen gas so as to maintain the floating power. This gas is to be generated during the night time. The balloon will carry provisions for 100 days and will have a capacity of 10,000 cubic meters.

Experienced aeronauts believe that this is a very hazardous undertaking. Lecomte proposes to cross Africa in its widest part, making a longer journey than any yet recorded. If an accident occurs to his ship his chances for reaching civilization are about as slim as they would be if he descended in the middle of the Atlantic, for he is compelled to abandon his balloon he is almost certain to find himself in a savage wilderness, hundreds of miles from succor, and very likely among hostile natives.

Miss Jennie Urquhart, sister of Mrs. James Brown Potter, was married here to-day to René Raoul Duval.

MOSCOW, September 24th.
The Grand Duchess Paul, wife of the youngest brother of the Czar of Russia, is dead.

ROME, September 24th.
The cost of Italy's defences by sea and land is increasing and with it grows the restlessness of the people. All over the kingdom are to be seen signs of agitation among the populace. The consequence of the general and restless belief that peace is not far off is to be borne, must soon increase. Excited meetings have been held in Venice, Naples, Ancona, and elsewhere, at which resolutions of protest against the course of the Ministry were adopted after the delivery of strong speeches by popular orators.

The Cabinet is in a desperate situation, it being impossible for it to withhold from Parliament the critical state of the country's finances. When the declaration is made and the inevitable recommendation is brought forward to increase the impost, a storm is sure to arise which can hardly fail to result in the weakening of the present ministry on the same rock, addition to taxation, that brought disaster to Signor Crispi.

BERLIN, September 24th.
A sensation has been caused in Catholic circles owing to the announcement that Professor W. Winchfield of Leipzig, a member of one of the most noted Catholic families, has been converted to the Protestant faith because of his disbelief in the holy host and scruples against supporting a church that would sanction such an exhibition.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 24th.
The crops will be scanty, and a renewal of famine is apprehended in 1892. The failure is due to bad weather, late sowing and unwillingness to use grain for sowing during the famine.

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 24th.
Abundant harvests are reported from most of the Turkish provinces.

The Porte has sent circulars to the powers in regard to the passage through the Dardanelles of vessels of the Russian volunteer fleet. In this communication the Porte says that for several years past vessels of the Russian volunteer fleet have been running between Odessa and Vladivostok. These ships, being under the commercial flag of Russia, were granted free passage of the straits. It was found, however, the Porte's note continues, that vessels were sometimes carrying soldiers, and these ships were detained owing to a mistake as to their real character. The Porte's instructions, the note adds, given to officers on duty at the Dardanelles to prevent any further detention of vessels of the Russian volunteer fleet were wrongly construed by the newspaper press to be a violation of existing treaties. The note concludes with the remark that no new measure has been adopted and that the old ones continue in force.

LONDON, September 25th.
There have been arrivals received from Captain Youngblood, dated Kashgar, who states that, learning the Russians had crossed the Afghan frontier in spite of protests from the Afghan authorities, and being informed the Russians were forcing their way towards Pami, he started out to verify the reports. He found on August 10th an advance guard of Russians strong at Bost-Gumbaz, near Chitral, or Little Kashgar. Captain Youngblood therefore placed himself in communication with the British army post at Gilikit, when British officials in command there promptly sent a force of 200 Ghoorkas to the scene of the Russian operation.

The Russians, on hearing of the approach of the Ghoorkas, retraced their steps and, joining the rear guard, the whole force returned across the frontier.

Letters from Nijni Novgorod merchants state that Afghanistan has been opened by the Amer to free commercial intercourse with Russia. The concession is said to have been made in consideration of the excellent quality of Russian products, but is really due to Russian adroitness and to valuable gifts, etc., sent from the Czar.

The commercial treaty now being negotiated between Russia and Persia will provide for the relaxation of the duty of representing the two countries abroad to single representatives. This probably implies a Russian protectorate over Persia.

The *Chronicle's* Odessa correspondent says that America has appointed a gentleman to visit Central Asia and report on the rapidly increasing cotton industry of Transcaspian Russia and Turkistan.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that the participation of Germany in the Russian loan is most that the events at Comrade have not had the lasting effects in Berlin that the French press imagined.

PARIS, September 25th.
M. Krenschus, ex-president of the Council of Ministers of Roumania, arrived in this city yesterday. He is a personal friend of the royal

family, and undoubtedly one of the best-informed authorities on Roumanian affairs. In conversation with a correspondent last evening he spoke of Mlle. Vaccarico, saying: "The Queen spent most of her time in literary work, and her health became much changed for the worse in consequence. Mlle. Vaccarico is an ambitious girl, and she helped the Queen in her studies and writings and thus obtained her friendship, finally becoming her inseparable companion."

"She availed herself of this intimacy and, naturally, the influence it gave her, to secure for her father the position of Roumanian Minister to Rome. Encouraged by this success she looked forward to a royal marriage, but if the Prince were really captivated by Vaccarico's personal charms, it must be looked upon only as the caprice of a young man, for the King would never allow such an alliance, and even though he had the nation would have opposed it."

The mail train on the Bordeaux and Paris Railroad was nearly wrecked to-day between Ruffec and Civray, owing to a number of rails having been placed across the track. The perpetrators were not discovered.

The police have seized a cartoon representing Germany as again triumphing over France, the idea for the offensive picture being derived from the successful production of "Lohengrin." They have also seized an objectionable placard and copies of a pamphlet characterized by a bitter spirit of political warfare. Another performance of "Lohengrin" was given to-night, and it passed off without noteworthy incident.

ROME, September 25th.
The Queen of Spain is reported to be the purchaser of the Marquis Alcañal's vast estate, including two palaces in Southern Italy, for 7,000,000 francs.

LIVERPOOL, September 25th.
The Gaiety Theatre in this city was burned this morning.

CHARLESTON (S. C.), September 25th.
Ten negroes were to-day sentenced to be hanged on October 23rd for the murder of another negro.

VIENNA, September 25th.
Russian troops are practising for night marches and other night manoeuvres across the River Pruth, on the Roumanian frontier, with the aid of electric lights. The Roumanian Government has become alarmed at these warlike demonstrations and is also concentrating troops on its frontier, and has ordered a force of cavalry to upper Moldavia.

It is authoritatively announced that the Czar and Empress William will meet on Saturday at Bromberg. The announcement being entirely unexpected, has caused considerable fluttering in political circles.

BERLIN, September 25th.
Six anarchists who have been tried here have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment of from six months to two years for circulating prohibited literature. Among the publications they are charged with circulating is the anarchist paper *Autonomie*, printed in London, containing articles insulting to the Emperor and designed to incite the people to treason. Behr and Wagenknecht were acquitted. They became notorious in connection with the treason trial of Reinhold in 1890.

CITY OF MEXICO, September 25th.
President Barrios of Guatemala is afraid of assassination, but he is determined to declare himself dictator before surrendering the Presidency, and he even may provoke war with Salvador in order to realize his dream.

MELBOURNE, September 25th.
Inquiry made into the affairs of the Australian Mercantile Loan Company shows the institution is hopelessly insolvent. The assets are placed at \$200,000 and the liabilities are estimated to be \$650,000.

OTTAWA (Ont.), September 25th.
It is ascertained that the British Government will have to pay Canadian sealers damages on account of the *modus vivendi* to the amount of \$500,000, and may be as high as \$700,000.

PANAMA, September 25th.
Advices from Peru report the murder by natives of four Californians who were prospecting for gold. The natives took them for spies.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 25th.
Twenty-eight farms with all the cattle and stores were destroyed by a fire of incendiary origin at Kozlogov, in Russian Poland.

BELGRADE, September 25th.
It is reported that the King of Serbia has been betrothed to Princess Helena of Montenegro.

MADRID, September 25th.
At a Cabinet meeting to-day it was decided to adopt the Mauser rifle for the army.

QUEBEC, September 25th.
Lieutenant-Governor Angliers, who is said to be harassing his Ministers into doing something that will warrant dismissing them, to-day demanded that the Government name a public accuser or prosecutor to conduct the case against the Ministers before the Royal Commission, and refused to allow their claim to be represented by counsel at the investigations.

The wildest rumors are current with regard to Premier Mercer's actions. Should he be dismissed he is said to be will take a dismissal from Angliers, but will defy him, and that his supporters, who are a majority in the Legislature, will probably adopt resolutions censuring Angliers and calling upon the Governor-General to remove him at once, otherwise the province will declare itself out of the confederation and take the consequences, which may lead to annexation.

OTTAWA (Ont.), September 25th.
Marine Engineer Redway of Toronto has constructed the model and drawn plans of a new style of craft, which it is expected will revolutionize the lake carrying trade. Redway's boat is fashioned after the model of an Indian canoe. It has a flat bottom, except for a fraction of the keel at the stern to accommodate the rudder. The hull is somewhat after the style of the whaleback, and there are no bulwarks. The upper works are meager, being only a cabin in the stern, where the boiler and machinery are, and a small projection forward. Along the main deck, amidships, runs a raised-off walk-way, in which are the hatches.

MONTREAL, September 25th.
After having been postponed from term to term during the past year, the trial of R. N. O'Brien, accused of libelling Prince George of Wales, was begun this afternoon in the Court of Queen's Bench. There was quite an array of legal and journalistic talent in court when the case was called. The taking of evidence was just commenced when the court adjourned for the day.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.
The Cantonese seem to have been frightened by a rumor that a terrible and deadly epidemic would produce great havoc in the 9th and 10th months and that to avoid the calamity it was necessary to alter the moons into the 1st and 2nd moons. As if by one accord the people made out that the last day of the 8th moon to be the last day of the year and the 1st day of the 9th moon to be the 1st day of the new year. Conflagrations were to be heard on every side. Fire-crackers were exploded at every door and butchers did a brisk business. The delusion was certainly carried far enough to deceive even the most astute of the gods of sickness.

A crazy man lately entered the Shanghai Taotai's *yamen*, penetrating even to the inner apartments. While he was looking about, he was discovered by Nib Taotai himself. The

intruder was at once arrested and sent with the three door-keepers on duty to the magistrate. The accused stated that he was an Anhui man, 18 years old, that his name was Ko Hui-sen, that he worked in a cash shop, but left it on account of bad people causing trouble in the other parts as stated in the newspapers. Beyond these statements nothing lucid or intelligible could be extracted from him, and he was remanded to await the Taotai's decision. The door-keepers got too blows each for negligence.

Some soldiers attempted to extort money from a *fantan* gambling den, in Canton. They were asked to give reasons for the squeeze, but the warriors had no reason to give except that they were out of funds. The gamblers laughed at them, whereupon a fight began. Weapons were used by both sides and the fight was kept up for a while. No wound was sustained among the combatants, but an unfortunate beggar passing by the door received a stray bullet and gave up the ghost without a groan. The valiant braves and the plucky gamblers immediately joined hands in face of the terrible catastrophe. Luckily for them the dead beggar had no relations to demand redress. His comrades came in crowds and clamoured for money, but they were easily satisfied.

Last winter an Anglo-Chinese College was being built in North Formosa at a cost of 30,000 taels. The work was recently completed, after ten months. An assistant sub-prefect was deputed to inspect the buildings and to take them over from the contractors' hands. A few days ago the Governor had occasion to visit the place, and found to his surprise that everything was shabbily done, the floors were unevenly laid, and in places the construction was in many respects different from the original plan and contract. H.E. was furious and ordered the contractors to be taken to the magistrate's *yamen* for examination. The petty official who had charge of the work, as well as the inspecting official, the assistant sub-prefect, got three black marks each. The case is by no means ended.

It is rumored among official circles that in connection with the importation of arms, in which the Customs officer Mason is implicated, the Customs authorities have discovered an official despatch from General E. Tung-ling ordering the 46 cases. But even a General has no right to order a lot of arms on his own account. The *Yung* is as reported, that the General did order 36 rifles, but as he could not read Chinese written his order, most likely to effect some object of his own—had altered the order to one for 46 cases. The General in ignorance attached his signature and seal to the order, and never suspected the fraud until the discovery was made recently by the Customs. However, E. Tung-ling has been deprived of his command and rumour says that the Board of Admiralty has wired to Nanking to have the General sent to Peking for trial. Of course nothing definite is known yet.

Our Soochow correspondent writes that of late crowds of beggarly-looking strangers having the appearance of monks and priests, are making visits in this place. When they see a fine residence seeming to be the abode of a wealthy man, they rush in demanding large sums of money. If they are refused, they are refused they help themselves to everything they can lay hands on. About a week ago early one morning eleven of their number went to the house of Yang, a rich master-of-arts, and handing in a card said they came to pay a complimentary call. The door-keeper said his master was still in bed, and told them to call later on, whereupon they stormed the entrance, drew their concealed swords, which they stuck in the floor, and ransacked the rooms. Nothing of value escaped their vigilance. Before their departure, to show they were not wanting in politeness they left their cards on the table.

In the Wong Pei district of Wuchang a missionary discovered a book some time ago, the contents of which were highly slanderous and anti-foreign. The book, which was found in a pawnshop, was by the missionary to the Chinese Consul. The Consul sent a Viceroy, taking the objectionable publication with him, and the Viceroy after inspecting the volume sent a military officer in disguise to the district, who managed to procure another copy of the work, which he reported to the local Magistrate. The Magistrate went accordingly to the pawnshop and there arrested six persons, searched the premises and found a quantity of the same books from which it had been printed and freely distributed. The Viceroy Chang has ordered the matter to be thoroughly sifted and has condemned the proprietors of the establishment to the heaviest penalties.

Three leaders of the rioters who destroyed the churches and chapels at Kwangchow in Anhui, were recently sentenced to death. The rioters were wrong from them. They implicated a student B.A. as having been associated with them. The magistrate refused to entertain this charge, on the ground that a student who had taken a degree would not mix himself up with lawless characters, and that the student was really a Christian convert, which fact in itself was sufficient to exonerate him from the charge of having conspired with the rioters to destroy churches. The prisoners still demanded that the student be confronted with them in court, but their request was absolutely unheeded, and the student, hearing that he was implicated, at once surrendered himself, but reached the *yamen* only to find that the prisoners had been taken to Wuhu for trial before the Taotai. He then of his own accord started for the latter place, anxious to dispel any suspicion of his guilt.

The military examination will soon be taking place and Nanking is crowded with students. Four of these gentry hired a widow's house for their temporary quarters, and as they were boarded with her she was kept very busy. One day, while her lodgers were out practising their arrow-shooting and riding as usual, and the widow was cooking a light-fingered gentleman walked in and helped himself to some clothes and three dollars in cash. When the thief was discovered the students charged the widow with having absconded and concealed the missing articles and money, and commenced to back up the charge by military argument, breaking and smashing the furniture and everything they could lay hands on. The frantic widow appealed to the neighbours for justice and protection, but no one who valued his head or skin dared to tell the furious warriors that they were in the wrong. Finally some elderly men came forward to act as peace-makers, and got the widow to pay five dollars as compensation. Boarders and hostess separated on that day for ever.

The Imperial troops have reached Wen chow and after several skirmishes have driven the bandits into the mountain recesses at last. Many prisoners have suffered capital punishment but the leaders are still at large. Notwithstanding the large rewards offered no one seemed to possess the requisite courage to beard the lions in their den. A master of arts, however, volunteered to undertake the dangerous task and

obtained a guard of soldiers to assist him. Hiding by day and moving at night they steadily moved on towards the robber chiefs' places of concealment. One very dark and rainy night they came to the cavern of the terrible Yeh Shung, a redoubtable chief steeped in crime and well known to be a dead shot with rifle and revolver. It is said that he could hit the right or left eye of a man at fifty paces. The inky blackness surrounding the entrance of the cavern was favourable to the bold band, who lay low and beat the ground with their feet and hands so as to tempt the robber chief to fire at them. The strategy was successful. The besieged robber aimed at the spot from which the sound proceeded and was followed, but they were uttered only to defeat him—into a left-hand cave he had sent one of his foes into eternity. This device was kept up until the robber, emboldened by his own imagined success, crept softly out of the rocky hole to see whether there was a chance of escape to join the other leaders higher up the mountain. The moment he showed himself his rifle was knocked out of his hand, and the soldiers closed on him. He attempted to draw his sword, but the master of arts got him by the waist and threw him down. He has since been tried and will soon settle his long-standing account by being made a head shooter. During the trial he denied nothing, but boasted of his exploits, only regretting that he could not get a chance before he died of wreaking vengeance on his captors.

BEARDS AND NO BEARDS.
Beards, says the *Dutch Free Press*, have had a more successful history than they were considered a distinctive badge of old age and wisdom, none but those of advanced age and philosophers being permitted to wear them. Afterward they came to be looked upon as one of the requisites of manly beauty. Then both old and young vied with each other in cultivating luxuriant specimens. The inhabitants of what is now called Germany wore long beards, as did also the Lombards, or Largobards of Italy, from which circumstance they took their name. Otho's beard was famed for its length, and his most solemn oaths were taken upon it.

Scipio Africanus, one of the most famous of the great of ancient Rome, who seemed to care little for the fashions of fashion, ventured the bold experiment of shaving off his beard. His example was immediately followed by all of his countrymen. Slaves and servants alone were commanded, under pain of severe punishment, to wear beards, and thus this adornment descended from the high rank of being a badge of honor and became the distinctive feature of the lowest menials. It was not until the accession of Hadrian that it was restored to its original post of honor, and the slaves again became known by its absence from their faces. This Emperor's reason for resurrecting the old fashion was that in order to cover some very disgusting scars on his chin it was absolutely necessary for him to cultivate the growth of a beard.

Prior to the time of Alexander the Great the Greeks wore full beards, but that monarch required his soldiers to shave so that their enemies could not grasp them by that appendage during battle, a very ordinary proceeding in those days in a hand-to-hand conflict.

In the early days of France a beard was considered a badge of liberty, and great care was bestowed upon it, the possessor of a long, curly beard being looked upon with envy by his less favored brethren. The pious monks and friars regarded this as a mark of frivolity, and shaved off their beards. The Bishop of Rouen, espousing their cause, hurriedly shaved from the pulpit at the custom of wearing them. He so impressed hundreds of the religious minded that they immediately followed the priestly example. Many, however, failed to do so, and as a consequence there existed in numerous localities two factions—the smooth-faced and the bearded.

—and many bloody meetings occurred between them. In fact, these conflicts became so general and sanguinary that Louis VII, in order to bring about peace removed his beard, and thus for a time settled the vexed question "To shave or not to shave."

This marked another period in the downfall of the beard, and it quickly came into disrepute. Persons elected to the office of magistrate, or who desired to become members of Parliament, were not allowed to assume their positions unless their chins were clean-shaven. Thus it was that many a beard, but a short time before the pride of its wearer, fell before the ruthless edict of fashion. In the case of petty magistrates, however, an exception was made, and they were allowed to retain their facial ornament.

It was not until 100 years later that it again became fashionable; and for the self-same reason as that which caused its restoration in the days of Hadrian. Francis I received a disfiguring cut on his chin which precluded shaving, and to conceal the scar he was compelled to allow his beard to grow.

Louis XIII, being King at the age of nine, and as a matter of course was beardless. His wily courtiers, desiring to show their allegiance and respect, immediately scraped their chins, and again the beard was relegated to obscurity. They did not, however, sacrifice all of this hirsute adornment, but grew mustaches and a small tuft of hair under the lower lip. This was also done when Philip V. ascended the Spanish throne.

The early history of the rise and fall of the beard in England is somewhat similar to that already detailed, and during the reign of Queen Elizabeth long beards were interdicted by statute. Those who had the temerity to wear one of "above a fortnight's growth" were fined and lost many of their privileges. This state of affairs lasted one year; then fashion proved triumphant and the odious law was repealed.

Peter the Great reformed himself very unpopular by levying a tax on beards, requiring any nobleman, gentleman, tradesman or artisan wearing one to pay two rubles for the luxury. If any member of the lower classes affected one he was taxed a copeck and compelled to pay it to a regularly appointed collector. Upon refusal or dereliction the beard was summarily removed by a public barber, who often performed the operation with a dull razor in the public street, surrounded by a throng of indignant friends of the victim. Many of those who could not afford to pay for the maintenance of such an expensive appendage reluctantly parted with it and in numerous instances preserved the severed beard with the greatest care, directing that it should be placed in their coffins at the time of their decease. The custom was also observed by the Jews of the olden time.

Among the Turks, Persians, Arabs and Mohammedans the removal of the beard always marked a degradation. In ancient Egypt the men were smooth-faced, except in time of mourning, when they allowed their beards to grow as a distinctive sign of grief.

The orthodox Jews of the present day still cling to the mourning customs of their forefathers, and for thirty days neither trim nor cut their beards.

In America no edict has ever been issued, either for or against beards, it being left to the individual taste whether or not to cultivate this adornment. The great majority of men who become prominently identified with the early history of America were smooth-shaven, but at the present time the fashion among our statesmen and other noted personages is to cultivate, if possible, luxuriant mustaches and beards.

ART SERGES

JUST TO HAND.
DOUBLE WIDTH SERGES.
IN THE FOLLOWING SHADES.

RESEDA. PEACOCK. AND ALL. OLIVE GREEN. 75 C.
SALMON. ART. ELECTRIC BLUE. per
TERRA COTTA. SHADES. OLD GOLD. Yard.
CRIMSON.

SUITABLE FOR
WINTER CURTAINS, PORTIERS, MANTEL DRAPERIES, WICKER
CHAIRS &c. &c.

ART SERGES

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS, AND ART UPHOLSTERERS.
QUEEN'S ROAD AND DUDDELL STREET.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1386

Today's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL, HONGKONG.
THE WILLARD OPERA COMPANY.

DIRECTOR.....Pemberton W. Willard
THIS EVENING.
(WEDNESDAY), OCTOBER 21st.

COMIC CONCERT.
Followed by a Farical Comedy in 3 Acts,
By J. H. Darnley and George Manville Fenn,
"THE BALLOON."

Cast of Characters:
Dr. Glynn.....Mr. P. W. Willard.
Captain Cameron.....Mr. E. Saxeby.
Mr. Aubrey Fitz-John.....Mr. J. H. Darnley.
Dr. Boynton.....Mr. J. H. Darnley.
David.....Mr. F. Wentworth.
Todd (a Policeman).....Mr. S. Smythe.
Mrs. Theresa Fitz-John.....Miss Jessie Royal.
Miss Grace Wentworth.....Miss A. St. John.
Miss Vere.....Miss F. Trigoe.

Mr. Rippenale.....Miss Vera Patey.
SCENE—Consulting-Room at Dr. Glynn's.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd,
"FALKA."

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24th,
"THE GONDOLIERS."

PRICES.....\$2.00 & \$1.00.
Plan now open at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH,
LIMITED.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1336

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction,
SATURDAY, the 31st October, 1891,
at 2.30 p.m.,
at their SALES ROOMS, No. 9, PRAYA CENTRAL.
The Powerful and Fast Steam Launch
"FALCON,"
lately belonging to Messrs. RUSSELL & Co.
Length between perpendiculars 57 feet
Beam.....8 1/2 inches
Depth moulded.....4 1/2 inches
Tandem H.P. Compound Engines; Cylinders
8 inches and 14 inches.
The Boiler is in good condition.
The Launch has been thoroughly overhauled by
the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company
and is in First-Class Order.

Also
The well-known Yachts
"NAOMI" and "ARIEL."
"NAOMI."
Dimensions.
Length on deck.....53' 9"
Beam.....11' 7"
Depth moulded.....8' 6"
With Lead Keel, 11 tons 8 cwt., and 3 tons
inside Lead Ballast. She was sheathed with
Copper in 1887 and is furnished with a complete
suit of sails and gear, including racing sails.
"ARIEL."
Dimensions.
Length on deck.....44' 3"
Beam.....8' 6"
Depth moulded.....7' 6"
With Lead Keel about 9 tons and Lead Ballast,
complete suit of sails, including racing sails and
gear.

TERMS OF SALE—Cash before delivery. For
further particulars, apply to
GORDON & CO.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1343

FOR SALE.

THE TEMPLE BAR HOTEL, SINGAPORE, the best second-class house in the town; takings over \$1,000 per month. Price \$5,000.
Present owner must leave for Europe, owing to ill health.
Apply to
W. A. W.,
17, High Street,
Singapore. 1344

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the Military Authorities that ARTILLERY PRACTICE will take place, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., on the 26th, 27th and 28th instant from Stone Cutters' Island in Western and South-Western direction, Balcher's Reef in a North-Westerly direction, and on the 29th, 30th and 31st instant from Lyemau in a South-Easterly direction.

All Ships, Junks and other Vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the range.
All people working in the vicinity of Belcher's Battery are warned to keep clear of that part which will be indicated by gunners placed on sentry for the purpose, and the inhabitants of the houses below the Battery are also warned to keep their glass windows open during the practice.

By Command,
W. M. GOODMAN,
Colonial Secretary's Office.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1344

Intimations.

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Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1386

Today's Advertisements.

ST. ANDREW'S CHAPTER, HONGKONG, 218 S.C.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION of the above Chapter, will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 21st instant, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1331

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.
(Calling at TIMOR, and taking through Cargo to NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)
THE Steamship
"GUTHRIE,"
Captain Helms, will be despatched for the above Ports on FRIDAY, the 30th inst., at daylight.
This well-known steamer is specially fitted for passengers, and has large cooling Chambers, thus ensuring a supply of Fresh Meats, Milk, &c. etc. throughout the voyage.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 1342

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE.

A COMPETITION will take place at Kowloon at 2.45 p.m. on SATURDAY NEXT, the 24th inst., at 200, 500 and 600 yards. Conditions 7 rounds and one sighting shot at each distance. Blaisy (1891) targets and positions. Prizes:—A SILVER SPOON for each distance. A large attendance of members is requested. And punctuality is very desirable.
J. ANDERSON,
Acting Hon. Secretary,
H.K.R.A.
Hongkong, 21st October, 1891. 136

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE "HONGKONG TELE

